

Attorney Docket No. 03777/LH

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: December 31, 2003

Applicant(s): T. HAKAWA

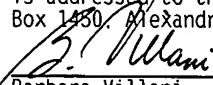
Serial No. : Not yet assigned

Filed : Herewith

For : INK JET RECORDING
APPARATUS

Art Unit :
Examiner :

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Barbara Villani

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

It is respectfully requested that the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A be considered and made of record.

The U.S. Patent Documents identified on said form PTO/SB/08A are not enclosed herewith since the USPTO waived the requirement to file copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications for U.S. Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003. (See 1276 OG 55 (05 August 2003)).

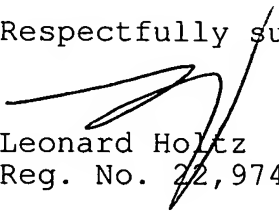
The U.S. Patent Documents are identified on pages 2, 4 and 5 of the present specification.

DISCUSSION

USP No. 5,828,395 - A filter in a slanted state to an ink flow direction is provided in an ink guide channel such that the flow speed and negative pressure of ink flowing along the filter surface increase from the upstream toward the downstream of the filter, and on the other hand, the flow speed and negative pressure of the ink change inversely on the side of a filter surface 21B. Bubbles which occur upon ink supply to an inkjet head are quickly moved downward along the filter surface. At the same time, the ink is passed through the filter and guided to a second ink guide channel.

US2002/12034A1 - The flow direction of the ink passing through the filter is along the gravitational direction, and the filter is set at an angle of 30° to 60° to the horizontal direction.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Application Number | | |
| | | | | Filing Date | | Herewith |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | | HARAKAWA |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | | 03777/LH |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam. Inits* | Cite No ¹ | Document Number | Kind Code ² | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | 5,828,395 | A | Takata | 10-27-1998 | |
| | | 2002/0012034 | A1 | Saikawa | 01-31-2002 | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam Inits* | Cite No ¹ | offc ³ | Document Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion | T ⁶ |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: **December 31, 2003**